

Fair, colder tonight. Friday fair; fresh west to northwest winds.

# The Washington Times.

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NUMBER 3132.

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1903.

PRICE ONE CENT.

## COAL DEALERS APPEAR BEFORE THE SENATE DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Delegation Responds to Request of Senate.

### CONSIDERED AS COMMAND

Local Traders Surprised at Action by Congress Regarding Local Situation.

When the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia met this afternoon at 2 o'clock for the purpose of investigating the local coal situation, practically every one of the local coal dealers who had been invited was in attendance. While the request for their presence was in the form of a polite invitation, it was generally looked upon as a command and was graciously acquiesced in.

The action of the Senate yesterday in directing the Committee on the District of Columbia to investigate the cause of the distress in this city occasioned by the shortage of the coal supply and the excessive prices that are prevailing, coming, as it did, immediately upon the allegation of one of the local coal dealers that the existing prices were unwarranted, caused something of a sensation among a number of the local dealers. The promptness with which the committee responded to the instructions of the Senate, and immediately summoned a number of the dealers to appear before it this afternoon, was also somewhat disconcerting.

That some of the local dealers have sacrificed their own interests to those of the people appears to be true, but that wholesale robbery of the coal consumers of the city has been practiced, and that the price of coal has been run up to almost prohibitive figures is said to be equally certain. Where the responsibility for this condition rests remains for the Senate committee to determine. Either some of the local dealers have been participating in the excessive profits, wrung from the public or else they, like the public, have been robbed.

#### Cost Little Greater.

The cost of mining and transporting coal is little greater today than it was a year ago, and yet in many instances it is retailing at two or three times the price that it brought previously.

It is understood that an invitation will be extended to the members of the Citizens' Coal Syndicate Committee, that has so aggressively pursued the subject, to be present before the Senate committee to give them the benefit of their knowledge of the situation. Barry Bulkley, the secretary of the committee, was today in conference with Senator Stewart upon the subject. The introduction of the resolution in the Senate yesterday was inspired not only by the personal experiences of the members of that august body in their endeavor to secure coal, but by the conditions which were revealed by the Citizens' Coal Syndicate Committee.

This committee has received assurances that coal can be bought in the bituminous regions for \$2.50 a ton. This price is an advance of \$1.60 over that which prevailed over a year ago. From all of the mining regions of West Virginia the freight rate to Washington is \$1.60, which would make it cost \$4.10 on the rails in this city. With the cost of hauling and a fair profit added there appears to be no reason why this coal should not be sold at \$5, or \$5.25 at the outside.

#### Satisfactory Receipts Today.

Receipts of coal this morning were satisfactory. On the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad thirty-six cars of coal remained on the track over night. This supply was increased this morning by the receipt of fifty cars of hard coal and thirty-six cars of soft. On the Pennsylvania lines the condition was equally satisfactory. In taking into account the daily receipts of coal, it must, however, be borne in mind that a large proportion of the receipts are consigned direct to Government departments or other large consumers.

Prices today were unchanged. The flurry of snow caused an uneasiness among consumers whose coal bins are nearly empty, but the dealers met the demand as best they could. It is with difficulty that any of the Reading or Pennsylvania Railroad coal can be procured, as practically none of it is in the open market, but fairly prompt deliveries can be secured from a number of dealers at from \$10 to \$12 a ton for anthracite, \$9 for splint, and from \$7.50 to \$9 for soft coal.

#### WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Fair and colder weather will prevail in all districts east of the Mississippi and south of the Ohio tonight and Friday.

Brief to high northwesterly winds will prevail on the middle Atlantic coast. Storm warnings are displayed on the Atlantic coast from Jacksonville to Eastport.

#### TEMPERATURE.

9 a. m. .... 32  
12 m. .... 31  
1 p. m. .... 30

#### THE SUN.

Sun sets today 4:55 p. m.  
Sun rises tomorrow 7:19 a. m.

#### TIDE TABLE.

High tide today 2:45 p. m.  
Low tide today 8:29 a. m.  
High tide tomorrow 3:02 a. m.  
Low tide tomorrow 9:36 a. m.

## SENATE FIGHT OPENS IN WESTERN STATES

Colorado Anti-Silver Republicans and Hopkins Men in Illinois Start Strenuous Legislative Struggles for Favorites.

Gladiatorial contests for Senatorial to-gas will be fought out in half a dozen or more Legislatures this week. While the air fills with flying political fur, the advocates of election of Senators by popular vote will watch for new arguments to favor their position.

In Delaware J. Edward Addicks, the millionaire gas magnate, has declared that unless he is chosen there will continue to be no Senators from the Blue Hen State. The Republicans are in the majority in the Legislature, and the Addicks men are in majority in the Republican party in the State, but the two factions are so wide apart that it is impossible to reconcile them, and a coalition between the Democrats and the anti-Addicks Republicans seems impossible.

#### Fight in Colorado.

The contest in Colorado, which began yesterday with the first meeting of the Legislature, is second in point of interest. There the Democrats on the face of the returns have a clear majority of ten on joint ballot, although they are in the minority in the house. The Republicans have been preparing to unseat eleven Democrats elected from Arapahoe county, in which Denver is situated, and thus give that party a majority on joint ballot, and defeating the Hon. Henry M. Teller. The originator of this scheme is the Hon. Edward O. Wolcott, former Senator, who aspires to return to Washington. He has seventeen men with him.

It has been generally believed that, in case the Democrats were not unseated, Senator Teller would win, but there is some doubt now even in the event of no unseating of members.

Democrats are offering 3 to 1 on former Governor Adams, who is a candidate.

#### Amicable Kansas Contest.

In Kansas there is also a spirited but more amicable fight for the seat now held by Senator Harris, elected as a Populist, but now a Democrat. The Legislature is Republican by a substantial majority. There are five candidates conspicuous in the field, and as yet no one has a majority. They are Representatives Long, Curtis, Bowersock, and Calderhead, and former Governor Stanley. Long and Curtis are far in the lead of the others in the number of votes pledged to them, but as the fight promises to be a long one, a dark horse may eventually win. At present Representative Chester I. Long is regarded as the strongest candidate.

Idaho has a four-cornered contest, in which the participants are Messrs. Borah,

Heyburn, and Standrod, little known outside of their State, and Senator Shoup, who was succeeded by Senator Fred T. Dubois, and who is now ambitious to come to the Senate again.

#### Hopkins Men Confident.

The Illinois battle has been a prolonged one, and there now seems to be but little if any doubt that the Hon. Albert J. Hopkins, now a member of the House, will succeed Senator Mason. He was endorsed by the State convention, a thing unprecedented in Illinois politics. The chief objection raised to Representative Hopkins is the fact that he does not live in Chicago, which city, it is held, should have one of the two Senators.

The Washington Legislature will elect a Republican to succeed Senator Turner, Democrat. It is composed overwhelmingly of members of that party. Present indications point to the selection of Levi Ankeny, a wealthy lumberman and banker of Spokane, although former Senator Wilson and several other lesser lights are aspirants.

The contest in Oregon will no doubt be a long and bitter one. Senator Simon is practically out of the race, as the Legislature chosen is unfavorable to him. The leading candidates are Governor Geer, the retiring chief executive of the State, Binger Hermann, the retiring land commissioner, and an Astoria lawyer named Fulton, not known in the East.

Elder Smoot, representative of the Mormon Church, will be chosen to succeed Senator Rawlins, Democrat, in Utah.

#### Want Pritchard's Place.

Practically the only contest of any interest where a Democrat is concerned is in North Carolina, where a half dozen Tar Heel statesmen long for the toga of Senator Pritchard, Republican. The candidates are Leckie Craig, Lee S. Overman, Cyrus B. Watson, several years ago a defeated candidate for Governor; Gen. J. S. Carr, Judge Hoke, and it is said former Senator Matt W. Ransom is willing to accept the honor if it should come to him without a struggle.

From Missouri ex-Gov. William J. Stone will succeed the venerable Vest, the fight having already been made and settled.

From Nevada Representative Newlands will succeed Senator Jones, who closes a career of thirty years in the Senate.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 8.—In the joint Republican caucus last night R. C. Kerens, national committeeman, was nominated for United States Senator on the third ballot.

## CARRIAGE ORDERS FOR WHITE HOUSE RECEPTION

Carriages will approach from the north (Pennsylvania Avenue), on Fifteen-and-a-half Street, and enter on the east side of the White House, opposite the Treasury. Pedestrians will follow the same route.

The gates will not be open until 8:20 o'clock. Two carriages will drive under the porte-cochere at the same time. Coachmen will be provided with numbered tickets, which must be preserved by them in order to regain admittance to the grounds.

Guests will also be provided with tickets of the same number as their carriages. These they should carefully preserve in order to call their carriages.

Guests will depart (as well as arrive) on the east side of the White House, on Fifteen-and-a-half Street, opposite the Treasury.

## NEW ARRANGEMENT FOR WHITE HOUSE RECEPTION

Entrance and Exit by East End for First Time.

A small army of florists and greenhouse men are hard at work at the White House, putting it in shape for the diplomatic reception this evening. Palms, ferns, smilax, and blooms of many varieties are being transferred from the Government lightouses, and by the time the electric lights are switched on this evening the newly remodeled home of the President will be a scene of beauty well worth beholding.

The reception to be given in honor of the Diplomatic Corps will bring into use for the first time the new entrance on the eastern side of the White House. All guests will enter at and depart from this entrance instead of using the northern front, as has been the case in former years.

The builders have constructed 2,500 compartments in this eastern wing for the reception of wraps, coats, and hats, and in the basement of the old building, beneath the East Room, are a number of elegantly appointed retiring rooms. Guests will leave their wraps below stairs, then proceed by way of the grand staircase to the first floor. Crossing the spacious vestibule, they will pass in turn through the cozy waiting room, the private dining room, the state dining room, the Red Room, and the Blue Room. As they enter the first named apart-

ment they will receive a cordial grasp of the President's hand and greetings from Mrs. Roosevelt, Miss Alice Roosevelt, and the Cabinet ladies. They will then pass on through the Green Room to the great East Room. When they tire of admiring the beauties of this great hall, the music of the Marine Band, stationed out in the vestibule, and the yowls of the other guests, they will leave the White House by retracing their footsteps down the staircase to the basement and out by the new eastern entrance.

Two thousand invitations have been sent out for tonight's function.

## WHITE ASSISTANT FOR INDIANOLA POSTOFFICE

Plan Suggested to Settle Race Difficulty.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 8.—Minnie Cox, the deposed postmistress at Indianola, Miss., reached here last night and will remain with friends until the postoffice trouble blows over. She declines to be interviewed.

Her husband, W. W. Cox, postal clerk on Southern Railway, who accompanied her here, says that he looks for early settlement of the difficulty. He declines to say whether or not his wife was threatened with violence, but adds that he and his wife have many good friends among the whites around Indianola. He intimates that her resignation was enforced by political influences not altogether local.

There is talk of settling matters by appointing a white assistant postmaster, who will have practical charge of the office, Mrs. Cox to remain as postmistress officially.

## GERMANY MAY EUCHRE UNITED STATES IN THE PANAMA CANAL DEAL

Ready to Buy When Our Option Expires.

### OFFERS FORTY MILLIONS

Would Accept Colombia's Share in French Company in Liquidation of Other Claims.

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—The "Tribune" this morning publishes the following: "London, Jan. 8, 3 a. m.—The Washington correspondent of the 'Daily News,' states on what he claims is unquestionable authority, that the Panama Canal Company has received a German offer to buy for \$40,000,000 all the company's rights and concessions. If the United States does not exercise its option, which expires March 4.

Would Exchange With Colombia. "The correspondent says that he further learns that the German government has offered to buy Colombia's share in the Panama Canal Company, agreeing to take them at par in full liquidation of all German claims against Colombia.

"The German view of the right to build the canal without violating the Monroe Doctrine is that the Colombian constitution is not alienated nor the sovereignty thereof transferred to a foreign government. Therefore, if German capital builds the canal, neither Germany nor individual Germans acquire sovereignty in Colombia or perpetual occupation of Colombian territory.

"Furthermore, the United States is not opposing the French company in building the canal, established the precedent that such building is not regarded as a violation of the Monroe Doctrine, for which reason the United States would have no justification in interfering with Germany completing the French company's work."

### FOUNDATION FOR REPORT OF GERMANY'S PROPOSITION

In official circles here it is admitted this morning that there is foundation for the statement that Germany is endeavoring to "euchre" the United States out of the control of the Panama Canal. Recent cables from Europe have indicated that a syndicate composed principally of German capitalists stood ready to pay \$40,000,000 for the property of the Panama Canal Company as soon as the option of the United States expires.

The exhaustive debate in Congress last session on the relative merits of the Panama and Nicaragua routes, and the overwhelming evidence in favor of the former from the standpoints of engineering, practical use, and cheaper cost of maintenance, attracted the attention of European engineers and financiers. They saw that the Panama Canal was a profitable business enterprise, and apparently they have attempted to obtain possession of it.

Responsible for Delay. German intrigue in behalf of these German capitalists, it is believed here, is responsible for Colombia's delay in negotiating a treaty with the United States whereby this country would acquire the canal.

## VENEZUELA PAPERS NOT YET TO GO TO CONGRESS

European Powers Evidently Anxious to Avoid the Hague Arbitration.

The governments having claims against Venezuela are endeavoring now to secure a settlement with President Castro without referring the dispute to the Hague.

Germany particularly is anxious to avoid the Hague on account of the possibility of its being used as a precedent for adjudicating the claims of other nations against Venezuela. It is a possible affair by diplomatic means through the State Department.

They are also anxious to avoid the proposition that Venezuela should pay \$335,000 in interest for the canal, which event they would enter into only if the canal were to be built and operated by the United States.

From the fact that the canal is a possible affair by diplomatic means through the State Department, it is a possible affair by diplomatic means through the State Department.

German ambassador, Baron von Holnstein, is a possible affair by diplomatic means through the State Department.

## REWARD LIKELY FOR SPEAKER HENDERSON'S POSITION ON TRUSTS

Said to Have Promised Legislation in House.

### CONFERS WITH PRESIDENT

Iowan Believed to Be Politically Dead in His Own State, But Party Favors Caring for Him.

It was learned this morning that Speaker Henderson may be rewarded for his favorable attitude on the question of trust legislation at the present session of Congress. The rumor discussed by a few members of Congress close to the President is that the Speaker may be given his choice of a place on the Isthmian Canal Commission or some diplomatic position that may be found at the close of the present session of Congress.

Speaker Henderson called at the White House yesterday. For more than an hour the President talked to him on the question of trusts, and is believed to have made it plain that some action must be taken before the adjournment, March 4.

Mr. Henderson has heretofore said that it was not possible to enact an anti-trust law at the short session, and he has been listed with that clique of the Republican members who do not favor any additional legislation on this subject until the demand becomes more accentuated than now appears. It is said he believed any law more stringent than the Sherman law would be unconstitutional. It now appears he has been misquoted or has changed his views, for it is well understood he promised the President yesterday that the House will pass such a measure as will meet with the approval of the President and the Attorney General.

The misunderstanding between Speaker Henderson and the Republican party leaders in Iowa prevents him from enjoying a continuation of political preference.

The complexion in Iowa from a political point of view has been changing for several years, and though it is Republican and probably always will be, it is dominated by a younger and more liberal class which is headed by Gov. A. B. Cummins.

It is almost certain that Senator Allison's toga will fall upon the shoulders of Governor Cummins, who made a strong fight for Gear's seat, and has since been building up his fences until he is now, without doubt, the leader of his party in the State.

It would appear, therefore, that Speaker Henderson can hope for little from Iowa Republicans. At the same time the party at large recognizes the value of his long service in Congress, and it is granted that the Administration would favor any movement to take care of him, now that he has lost his grip in his own district.

With the Speaker favorable to trust legislation, and the Administration list at that, the chances of some action being taken at the present session are materially increased.

It is said Speaker Henderson much desires a diplomatic berth, and this would compensate him in an entirely satisfactory manner for his loss in Iowa.

## UP TO MR. PAYNE TO PUNISH MACHEN

NEBRASKA POLITICIANS SEE THE PRESIDENT

Representative Mercer Presents Mr. Gurley.

### FIERCE FIGHT OVER OFFICE

United States District Attorney Summers in Danger of Losing His Position.

President Roosevelt was today given an additional insight into Nebraska's tangled political situation, where conditions are complicated by the fight of the cattlemen to retain their hold on the Government lands as pastures; by contending factions seeking one another's political scalps, and by incidental charges of all sorts of irregularities, in and out of office.

One of the President's early callers at the White House offices this morning was Representative Mercer of Nebraska, who introduced W. F. Gurley of Omaha, a prominent lawyer of the Nebraska metropolis. Mr. Gurley is a candidate for the post now held by United States District Attorney Summers, against whom a fight has been made for the past six months. Mr. Summers is fortunate, however, in having his opponents divided against themselves, and so far has not been disturbed in his official position.

#### Three-Cornered Fight.

Representative Mercer told the President that the fight has become a three-cornered one, and that an early settlement of the case would doubtless redound to the advantage of the party in the State.

Mr. Summers has the support of Senator Millard, who brought him to the temporary White House on Jackson Place last fall to present a general denial of the political charges against him. He is being bitterly fought by Edward Rosewater, editor of the "Omaha Bee," and erstwhile candidate for the United States Senate. It was Mr. Millard, however, and not Mr. Rosewater who secured the toga.

The energetic editor declares that the main reason for his opposition is not that Summers himself is so bad, but that the political allies of the district attorney are unbearable in their political knavery and that his association with them was not for the best interests of public justice. Mr. Rosewater's candidate is Harry Lindsay, who is likewise supported by Senator Dietrich.

#### Mr. Gurley's Chances.

Over the failure of the Senator to unite on one candidate arose the prospect that, in case of a deadlock, there would be a great opportunity for a strong candidate not committed to either side. Mr. Gurley has put himself within range, and Representative Mercer is endorsing him strongly. There has been some talk of a fourth candidate, the Representative said today, in case the matter is not soon settled. The new possibility is W. Mung, a lawyer of Lincoln. So far there is no word as to whether the President will take early action or not.

## ADRICH REPLIES TO VEST'S GOAL SPEECH

Says Anthracite Importations Are Infinitesimal.

In his opening prayer in the Senate this morning, the chaplain invoked divine blessings upon "Those in whom thou hast implanted the grace of liberty; and by the inspiration of conscientious examples in philanthropy, may all men know the right use of wealth."

At the conclusion of the routine morning business the Vest resolution was laid before the Senate.

Mr. Aldrich (Rep., R. I.) said he assumed that all Senators were as keen in their sympathy with suffering in the present coal crisis as the Senator from Missouri. The Senator asked that something be done immediately, but he took an unusual course. He asked that the Senate instruct the Committee on Finance to prepare a bill removing the duty on anthracite coal. If he wanted more speedy action he was at liberty to prepare the resolution.

Again, said Mr. Aldrich, the resolution referred to anthracite coal only, and the importations of anthracite are infinitesimal in amount. The duty on bituminous coal would still have to be collected.

"I promise," said he, "that if this matter is referred to the committee it will be promptly considered and reported." Two House bills, one creating Portal, N. D., a support of entry, and the other, amending the internal revenue laws relating to distilled spirits in bonded warehouses, were passed.

Mr. Foraker offered a joint resolution extending the thanks of Congress to Gen. Adna R. Chaffee, and the officers and men under his command, in China, for their heroic services in the recent military operations there. It was referred to the Committee on Military.

See Page 11. Houses for sale by Stone & Fairfax.—Adv.

Postmaster General Now Has Many Facts Presented by The Times Concerning Scandals in His Department—Public Awaits His Action.

Wavering Between Loyalty to Party and Allegiance to Oath of Office—Condition of Disorganization Exists. Letting of Contracts.

The recent exposure in The Times of the irregularities and persistent disregard and violation of the law in the Postoffice Department, and the further intimation of startling revelations of fraud yet to come, has nowhere been received with deeper concern than in the office of the Postmaster General, Henry C. Payne. Mr. Payne is in no way in sympathy with operations of the clique that has been making of the public office a "private snap" and no one more deeply regrets the existence of such a condition than does he.

Already steps have been taken to correct the evil, by direction of the Postmaster General, and many questionable practices have for the moment been discontinued. Even with dozens of members of Congress, and other officials, pressing upon him for consideration and despite the onerous routine duties that demand his almost undivided attention he has denied himself to all callers for hours at a time to familiarize himself with the conditions which exist and which have existed for years past.

Mr. Payne is by this time fully aware of the deplorable condition, and while he is in no way responsible for that which has just come to his attention, if he fails to take drastic measures to put an end to the conditions the responsibility from now on will rest with him. He is fully aware that a public exposure of the wholesale frauds in the department may be taken advantage of to embarrass the Administration and that political capital is bound to be made of it. It is his desire to conduct his investigations in secret and to weed out the wrongdoers without attracting public attention. In this he will fail. The evil is so deep seated that little short of a reorganization of the department will effectually remedy it.

#### Mr. Payne Wavering.

Mr. Payne is wavering between his loyalty to his party and his sworn allegiance to the constitution and laws. The issue has been made a direct one. Will he uphold the laws of the country, or will he protect his party from possible attacks?

Although it is nearly a week since The Times called his attention to sections 412, 1781, 1782, and 1783, of the revised statutes, which forbid the letting of contracts to an official in the service, he has satisfied himself with a reference of the matter to the attorney for the department, where in the usual course of such matters it will die a natural death.

Yesterday the opinion of the Attorney General of the United States bearing upon the question was placed before him by The Times. This opinion leaves no doubt as to it being his duty to immediately dismiss A. W. Machen from the service, institute proceedings against him, cancel the existing coal contract with Machen Bros., and exclude their proposal for supplying coal for the remainder of the year from consideration. Inactivity still prevails in the office of the Postmaster General so far as Mr. Payne's plain duty in the premises is concerned. How long this will continue he alone knows.

#### Condition of Disorganization.

In the meantime a condition of disorganization exists in the department which seriously interferes with the proper transaction of public business. Officials identified with the clique assemble at all hours to discuss recent developments and to determine how their "graft" can be continued and disclosures prevented. Retrenchment is evident among them, and they are in a condition bordering on panic.

Among the clerks and other employees the condition is equally strained. How far the disclosures may go is the constant subject of speculation on the part of the employees. The official order forbidding disclosures of public matters was not necessary. Reporters are looked upon as plagues. Even their intimate acquaintances in the department frequently fear to recognize them while in the building.

Even Mr. Machen, who prides himself on his security in office, because of political support that practically makes him independent of the Postmaster General, has changed his practices. He no longer rides to the office in his stylish turnout as was his wont, and now contents himself with riding down in the street cars.

Hathaway and he have their funds deposited in two or three different banks. One of them is in Washington. The amounts to their credit there do not exceed the amount of their combined salaries. The location of the other banks is something of a secret.

Among the many questionable practices...

(Continued on Third Page.)